

COMMUNITY

Actor Evan Johnson In Angels In America

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JANUARY 3, 2008 Mom Guess What Newspaper • Sacramento's Source for GLBT News Since 1978 •



EQCA Mourns Loss of LGBT Leader and Board Member Jim Nickoff

Jim Nickoff, a founding Equality California board member and longtime advocate for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community died on Dec. 16. He was 44.

Nickoff was a dedicated advocate for the LGBT community. He was a founding EQCA board member and served as treasurer for the past five years. He was responsible for creating the entire financial structure for EQCA and helped manage those systems as the organization grew.

Nickoff lent his financial expertise to the community by serving as treasurer of numerous campaigns, including the two successful campaigns to enact and retain domestic partnerships in San Francisco. He also

served as treasurer or key financial positions on the election campaigns of Barbara Boxer, Mark Leno, Harry Britt, Angela Aliotto, Leslie Katz and many others. Professionally, Nickoff served as chief financial officer for Project Open Hand, the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention, and the Stop AIDS Project. He also served as treasurer for the Federation of Gay Games and the Harvey Milk Club, volunteered for the Square Peg Foundation and taught martial arts to

Nickoff and his partner, Dave Lawson, were the 7th couple married at San Francisco's City Hall during the Winter of Love in 2004. Nickoff and Lawson were longtime San Francisco residents who recently relocated to Woodside, in San

Mateo County.
"Jim leaves behind a legacy full of heart and compassion, leadership and generosity," said EQCA Executive Director Geoff Kors. "He poured his energy into supporting LGBT issues, lifting the spirits of troubled youth and fighting HIV and AIDS," Kors said. "On top of that, Jim was a truly amazing man and a wonderful friend to me and many others who were lucky enough to know him. His death is a tragic loss. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Jim's chosen family of friends and especially to his partner, Dave.

For the past five years Nickoff guided financial matters for the Pacific Business Group on Health, where he was the organization's chief financial officer. Nickoff received his B.A. in accounting at Michigan State University and did graduate studies in business administration at Golden Gate University. Also a talented athlete, Nickoff won several medals in martial arts in the 1994 Gay Games in New York, 1998 Gay Games in Amsterdam and the 2002 Gay Games in Sydney.

'Jim was such a wonderful man, and we will all miss his sense of humor and incredible generosity," said EOCA Board President John Duran. "Jim took a struggling organization with no financial infrastructure and helped it build first-rate systems. He did it all - thousands of hours of work—pro bono. Jim was that kind of man.'

Nickoff is survived by

his partner, Dave Lawson. A memorial service is planned for January.

Equality California Institute, Dave Lawson and Jim's friends are establishing an endowed fund to create an annual paid internship in Jim's memory. The internship will provide LGBT youth, who too often suffer isolation when coming out in high school, an opportunity to connect with the community. Tax-deductible donations may be sent to Equality California Institute, 2370 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94114 or made online at eqca.org. Please note on your check or in the comments section of the website that the funds are for the Jim Nickoff Internship.

eaca.ora

MGW

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New Years Resolutions

By Boyce Hinman The Lambda Letters Project

According to a September 2007 study by the Public Policy Institute, only 25% of the people of California approve of the job being done by our state legislators. Fifty nine percent disapprove of the legislature's performance.

Are you among the 59 percent? Well, you can sit and do nothing or you can do something about it. Most legislators keep detailed counts of the phone calls, letters and emails they receive on each particular bill. They don't do this for their health. They want to know how people in their districts view bills. If a lot of support or opposition to a bill comes in, that often affects the legislator's vote on the bill.

So you can influence the outcome of bills that have a direct impact on your life, especially if the community, in general, makes it a habit to contact their legislators. It would be wonderful if you made a resolution to contact your legislator's Sacramento offices at least once each month.

But you ask, "How do I know who my legislator is?" You can find that out easily by going to Lambda Letters web page at: lambdaletters.org. Then do the following:

1. Click on "Who represents you?" (On the left side of the page.)
2. Click on California State Legislature.

3.. Click on "Search by address."

represents you in the State Senate and Assembly along with their addresses and phone numbers.

4. Scroll down and key in your

This process will tell you who

address.

But then, you might ask; "How do I know what to call my legislators about?" One of the best ways is to review the list of bills that you will always find on the Lambda Letters web page. It lists bills being tracked by Lambda Letters in five issue

HIV/AIDS, LGBTI issues Economic Justice issues, Issues of concern to People of Color, Women's issues

You can go to that list by going to lambdaletters.org and clicking on "Legislative Update."

The listings give the purpose of each bill, Lambda Letters' position on the bill, and when and where the next vote on the bill will occur. By clicking on the bill number you can see documents that show the complete wording of the bill, analyses of the bill, or how legislators voted on the bill. For example you could see how your legislator voted on a bill you care about.

Are you interested in bills that deal with a particular subject, such as breast cancer? It's easy to find bills currently in the state legislature that deal with that subject. Just send your Internet browser to: legislature.ca.gov. Then, on the right side of the page, click on: "keyword(s)" and key the words "breast cancer"



into the dialogue box. That will give you a list of current state bills that deal with that subject. If you click on a bill number you can see a full copy of the bill, current status of the bill, analyses of the bill, and how legislators have voted on it.

The tools are all there for ordinary people to learn about state legislation on issues they care about. And legislators do care how the people in their districts feel about those bills. So it is up to you. Do you care about what legislators do on legislation that affects your life? You can mold what your legislators do on those bills. All you have to do is to make a resolution to educate yourself and then let your legislators know how they should

Happy New Year!!!

Boyce Hinman The Lambda Letters Project LambdaLP@aol.com

If you care passionately about breast cancer, you could call or write your legislators to let them know how you think they should vote on the bills.

be voting.

In Loving Memory

December 1984:

December 1985: **Felix Oramas**

December 1986: Rick Hernandez

December 1987: Ron Parsons

December 1988: Linda Cottrell David Marus Richard Vaughn Ralph Trainor Sylvester

December 1989: Kenneth Allen Karrish Bill Quinn **Donny Dingler** Roy Frisch Al Valdez **Bill Lemen** Stan Miguel-Ward

Wayne Rasmussen **Bob Ferrell** Bruce McDonough

December 1990: Jimmie Collier Gary Batcher Johnathan

Francorcw Willis James **Edward Lennane** Jim Nolan

December 1991: Stan Hadden **Father David** Myers **Charles James** Hribal, Jr. Tommy Gossett Leonard Wilcox

Gilbert Lopez

December 1992: Michael Patterson Jim Graham Michael Barrett Jim Scaman Jerry Dye Margaret Coelho **Xavier Franco**

December 1993: Kim Ingraham LeRoy Davidson Ed Walker Mary King James Edward

Graves Cliff Clark **Paul Contreras** Rod Ashley Alfred H. Gaul, Jr. Kenric Brown Michael Callen

December 1994: Gary Smith Ronnie Neal George Smith Gregg Cranert Ric Marino Linda L. Brook R.

Robert Darrell Lippincott **Damon Wilson** John Kiely Philip Johnson Sammy Slater Jerry Moyer Mike Davis Michael Naber Henry Mejia

December 1995: Perry Florio Michael Brooks David Bell David C. Thomas D. James Jumper Eric Mask Bill W. Billy V. Kent Hull William C. Bridgette R. **Richard Steven** Sykes Robert P. Charles J. Michael Mears

in

December 1996: Paul Arthur Young Robert Kelly Emanuel C. Mike Smith Verne B. Eric L. **Roger Dale Helms** Chuck D. Scott Deering **David Cannales**

December 1997: Kirk Derby

December 1998: Jeff Smith Michael M. Cecil S.

December 1999: Reni O.

December 2000: Gary Shaw Thomas Scott Mountain

December 2001: **Keith Thomas** ("Sammy Joe")

December 2003: **Gregory Paul** O'Neill Rashidi "Roc" Ahmad

December 2004: **Clifford Carte** Kathryn LaMadrid

December 2006: Tony Stella

Year Unknown: John Walters Frank Wasco Billie Washington, Jr. Rick Witnah Willie Young

my

A Call For Support For Sacramento's Lambda Players

Thave been involved with the Lambda Players off and on since the early 90's (more on than off) as an actor, light operator, set builder, former board member and now all-around volunteer. I have watched the Lambda Players overcome many obstacles, find a place to make their own and call home, and most recently, due to circumstances beyond their control (but a good move nonetheless), take up residence at The Studio Theatre.

This theatre company is now in its 19th season, no small feat for any theatre company, let alone a theatre company with such a specific focus. I am aware that there have been and still are rumors and/or misinformation circulating in the community regarding the theatre company, but I would like to state from first hand knowledge, that

the members of the board are trying their best to make the theatre company one that serves and reflects the diversity of our community and that they are truly trying to make changes for the better.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Maintaining and running a theatre company takes a large amount of work and unfortunately, at this time, there are too few people involved to truly make the theatre company live up to its potential. I would like to encourage people in the community to support the Lambda Players. We, as a community, should be proud to have a GLBT theatre company in Sacramento, and quite honestly, without community support, the theatre company cannot survive and thrive.

Please, go see their productions, make a contribution and/or volunteer

some time to help make it a better and stronger theatre company for everyone in our community.

Volunteers are needed to help with set building, working backstage, ushering, running lights and/or sound for productions, running the box office, reaching out to community groups, and a number of other tasks.

The Lambda Players brand new website is up and running (www.lambdaplayers. com), The Studio Theatre is a wonderful venue, and the more people that contribute some amount time in any of a number of ways would be greatly appreciated and will help the theatre company be the best that it can be.

> Sincerely, **West Ramsey**

Every now and then, take a second, breathe deeply, and think of me. To add the names of loved ones to MGW's remembrance cooling, or clarify Year Unknown, call 737-0309.

Angels in America Part I: Millennium Approaches

Angels in America
deconstructs America.
Religion under fire.
Relationships under fire. Sex,
on fire. Death everywhere. And
an angel waits in the wings,
ready to fall. This is the heart of
Tony Kushner's Pulitzer Prizewinning epic and episodic play
Angels in America: Part One:
Millennium Approaches. Set
in the mid-'80s at the height of
corporate power grabs, AIDS
unawareness and the tightly
shut gay closet, Kushner's play
peers deeply into the American

psyche, peeling back the layers of the past century and letting history's gritty secrets bubble up in the words and actions of the characters. With a mad swirl of irony, intense drama, outrageous humor, and unexpected twists and turns, Angels in America is sure to hold your attention - particularly if you recall the Ronald Reagan years.

Featuring a delirious AIDS patient and a an ex-drag queen nurse who employs skill, cynical wit and tough love to keep him alive, Angels is a seemingly apocalyptic yet comic and hopeful meditation on faith, morality, love and sex.

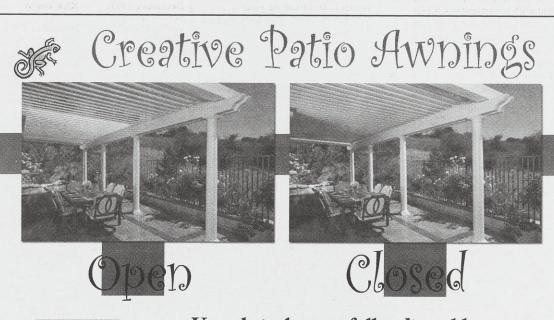
The Lambda Players is pleased to present Angels in America at their new home in the Studio Theatre. The production features Eric Baldwin, Kevin Caravalho, Jes Gonzales, Maggie Hollinbeck, Eddie Jacson, Evan Johnson and Martha Omiyo Kight. Production dates are January 11 - February 16 Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m. (special Sunday benefit matinee to be announced)

SF Pride Committee Selects 2008 Event Theme

The General Membership of the San Francisco LGBT Pride Celebration Committee came together at the 2007 Annual General Meeting (AGM) held September 16 to discuss and debate, among other things, the theme for the 2008 San Francisco LGBT Pride Celebration and Parade.

From a list of 40 potential themes, the membership overwhelmingly selected, "United by Pride, Bound for Equality," as the theme for the 2008 event, which was submitted by member and lead VIP Reception volunteer Kenneth Vick.

The membership expressed a desire to select a theme with a political message about LGBT rights that would be relevant during the 2008 election year, when the 38th annual San Francisco LGBT Pride Celebration and Parade is set to take place.





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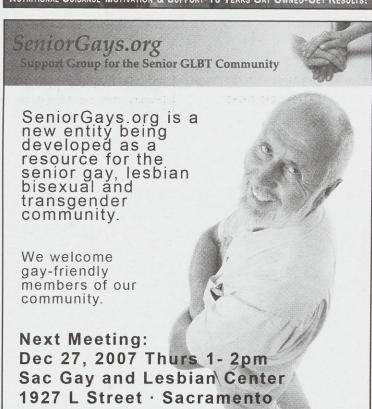
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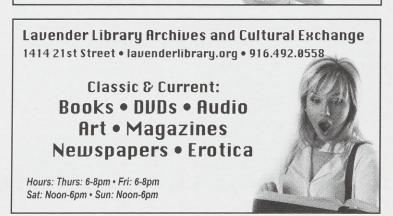
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NCLR and California Rural Legal Assistance Unite to Create Proyecto Poderoso

Today, the National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR) announces its partnership with California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA) to expand civil rights enforcement on behalf of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people. Proyecto Poderoso—Powerful Project—will educate rural communities about LGBT rights and litigate cases on behalf of low-income LGBT residents of rural California.

Lisa Cisneros, a recent graduate from University of California, Berkeley, Boalt School of Law, developed the project to promote safe rural communities where LGBT people can live, work,

attend school, and participate in community life free from harassment and abuse based on their sexual orientation or gender identity. After CRLA noticed an emerging trend of harassment and discrimination against LGBT agricultural workers, CRLA reached out to Cisneros and NCLR to design a project to address the needs of this community. CRLA's community workers are already providing information and resources regarding other legal issues, including workers rights and healthcare, and have been working extensively with schools, clinics, and in private homes throughout rural California. According to

Cisneros, the only thing missing was advocacy on behalf of LGBT people

Proyecto Poderoso is based in my hometown, Salinas, California," said Cisneros. "I came out as a teenager in Salinas, and I understand that one can feel isolated as an LGBT person in small town. Through Proyecto Poderoso I hope to make a positive difference in the lives of LGBT people living in rural communities, especially low-income Latinos in the Central Valley. While the limelight of public attention and services shines on places like Los Angeles, Silicon Valley, and San Francisco, I am familiar with living in a mostly ignored place,

Salinas."

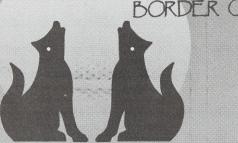
Cisneros will work out of CRLA's Salinas office. NCLR will help Cisneros educate CRLA attorneys and staff on issues affecting LGBT communities as well as the key legal protections for LGBT people in California. NCLR will also provide technical assistance in representing LGBT clients in employment, family law, public benefits, and housing discrimination cases. CRLA's expanded expertise will improve its ability to provide legal representation to low-income LGBT individuals in rural California.

The National Center for Lesbian Rights is a national legal organization committed to

advancing the civil and human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their families through litigation, public policy advocacy, and public education. We can be reached through our website at www.

nclrights.org. California Rural Legal Assistance Since 1965 California Rural Legal Assistance has advocated on behalf of the state's farmworkers and rural poor. CRLA provides direct legal services, community education, and advocacy. There are 21 CRLA offices from Marysville in Northern California to El Centro on the US-Mexican border. For more information, please visit www.crla.org.





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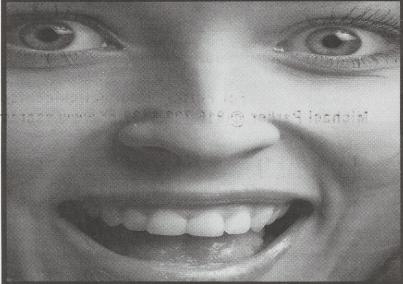
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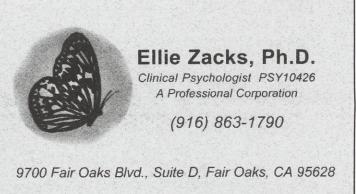
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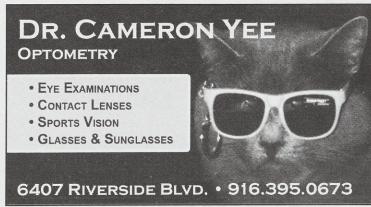


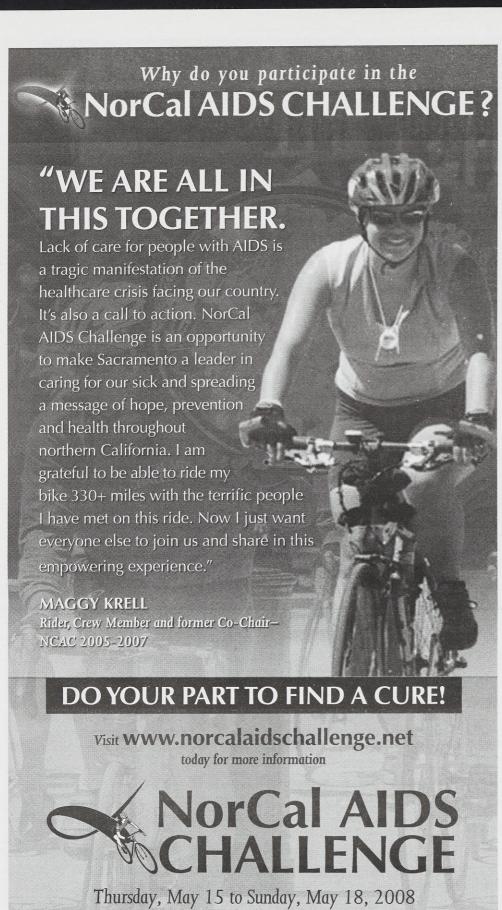












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Fight A Dangerous Bill

A ssembly Member Chuck DeVore, R Irvine, has introduced a dangerous bill, AB 1498. This bill will be voted on in the Assembly **Business and Professions Committee** on January 15. It is important that the LGBTI community express its opposition to this bill.

Current law prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation, among other reasons, by any program or activity funded by the state. This includes many private agencies and programs. These protections were obtained as the result of much hard work by the LGBTI community and its allies and

by supportive legislators. However, AB 1498 says that these prohibitions would apply only the specific program or activity funded by state government. The organizations, with some activities funded by the state, would be entirely free to discriminate against the LGBTI community in any activities or programs that are not directly funded by the state.

The state should not be providing funds to organizations that discriminate against our community. Current law prohibits the funding of organizations unless they agree not to discriminate in any of their programs or activities. AB 1498 would give them freedom to discriminate in many ways.

In addition, when an organization receives state funds to perform a

certain function, that frees up their other funds to spend on the other activities of the organization. If the organization is permitted to discriminate in those other activities then the state funds are assisting them in that discrimination. AB 1498 would make that assistance possible. This bill must be stopped.

At present only three organizations are listed as opposing the bill. They are: The Lambda Letters Project, The ACLU, Equality

California. We should have many other organizations and individuals listed in opposition. Legislators look at

the lists of those who support and oppose a bill when deciding whether to vote for or against it. Do you belong to an LGBTI organization or some organization supportive of the LGBTI community? If so, please get your organization to FAX a letter of opposition to the Assembly Business and Professions Committee no later than January 8. The letter can be faxed to: (916) 319-3306. It should be addressed to: The Hon. Mike Eng, Chair, The Assembly Business and Professions Committee, 1020 N Street, Suite 124, Sacramento, CA 95814. I hope to see many more rganizations listed in opposition by the day of the vote.

> Boyce Hinman The Lambda Letters Project LambdaLP@aol.com

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Yet

Delegate to the **Democratic National** Convention!

esbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) voters are one of the most loyal votingblocks in the Democratic Party. We are everywhere and we vote!

table and it is now time to make sure we have a strong voice in selecting the Democratic Party's presidential nominee at the National Convention August 25-

28 in Denver. This is our chance to be a part of the solution this country so desperately needs. National Stonewall Democrats worked closely with the National Committee's LGBT Caucus to push every state to set goals for LGBT delegates to the convention. But goals are nothing if they are not met.

That's where you come in. We need you and LGBT Democrats in every state to run for national convention delegate. We have launched our Pride in the Party program to help you run for delegate. You can find information on the delegate selection process at our new program wesbsite

PrideInTheParty.org

Source: Stonewall Democratic Club

Become a

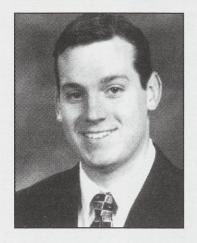
We have earned our seat at the

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OPINION



By Adam B. Summers

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It is no secret that California's infrastructure has deteriorated dramatically over the years and has not kept up with population growth. We have arrived at our current state because of a perceived lack of money (even though state revenues have doubled over the past 10 years) and decades of legislative apathy. Yet, despite a soaring budget deficit and a legislature that seems intent on enacting more regulations and boondoggle health care and environmental programs rather than funding

Libertarian Perspective: A Private Solution to State's Public Infrastructure Problems

needed infrastructure projects, there is a simple solution that may provide some much-needed relief: allow the private sector to succeed where the public sector has not.

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger estimates that the state needs \$500 billion worth of public projects over the next 20 years to address the infrastructure problem. This is far too much money for the state government to absorb without massive tax increases or cuts to other programs that politicians are unwilling to make. Moreover, the state already faces an impending budget deficit of at least \$10 billion, and, according to various media reports, money from the \$42 billion bond package that was passed in November 2006 is already being squandered.

To his credit, Schwarzenegger is seeking to address the state's infrastructure problems by soliciting proposals from private-sector firms to design, build, and/or operate public projects such as roads, schools, wastewater treatment plants, ports, levees, and hospitals. Such arrangements are often called public-private partnerships, or PPPs. In the case of a road, for example, a private

company might agree to build a new stretch of highway and pay a fee or long-term lease to the government in exchange for the right to operate and collect tolls on the road. This is the model on which the new South Bay Expressway in San Diego was built.

In addition to providing a much-needed funding source for projects, PPPs transfer risk to the private sector by allowing the government to structure contracts such that the burdens of liability issues and cost overruns are shifted to the contractor. Furthermore, private contractors typically provide the same or better service at lower cost. This is because of the different incentives faced by the public and private sectors.

In the absence of contracting, the government is a monopoly and faces no competition. Agencies get as much money as they can through political lobbying and don't have to worry about going out of business. In the private sector, however, businesses succeed only by providing lower prices and/or better quality goods and services than their competitors. If a private company

does not perform well, it loses its business to someone else.

In short, private businesses have much stronger incentives to innovate and keep their customers happy. If a customer has a problem with a private business, chances are he can go to the proprietor or store manager to fix the problem. By contrast, if the pavement on the freeway is deteriorating or a disabled vehicle takes too long to clear, who is the taxpayer to call, and how likely is it that the problem will be quickly remedied?

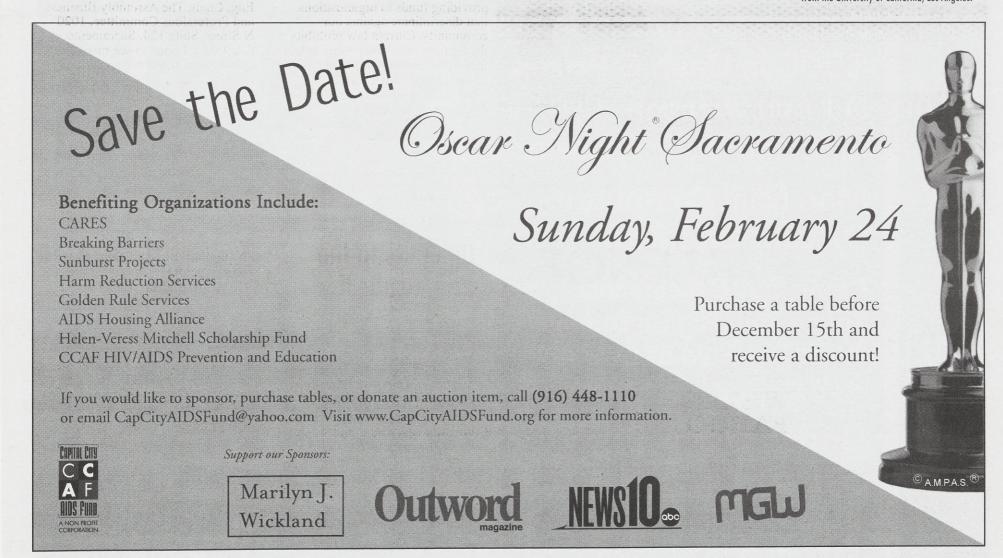
California does have some experience with PPPs. The use of contracts with incentive clauses successfully sped repair of roads and bridges after the 1994 Northridge earthquake and following a gasoline truck accident that destroyed interchanges at the MacArthur Maze in the San Francisco Bay Area earlier this year. But the state has generally taken a piecemeal approach to PPPs and ignored many opportunities to utilize them.

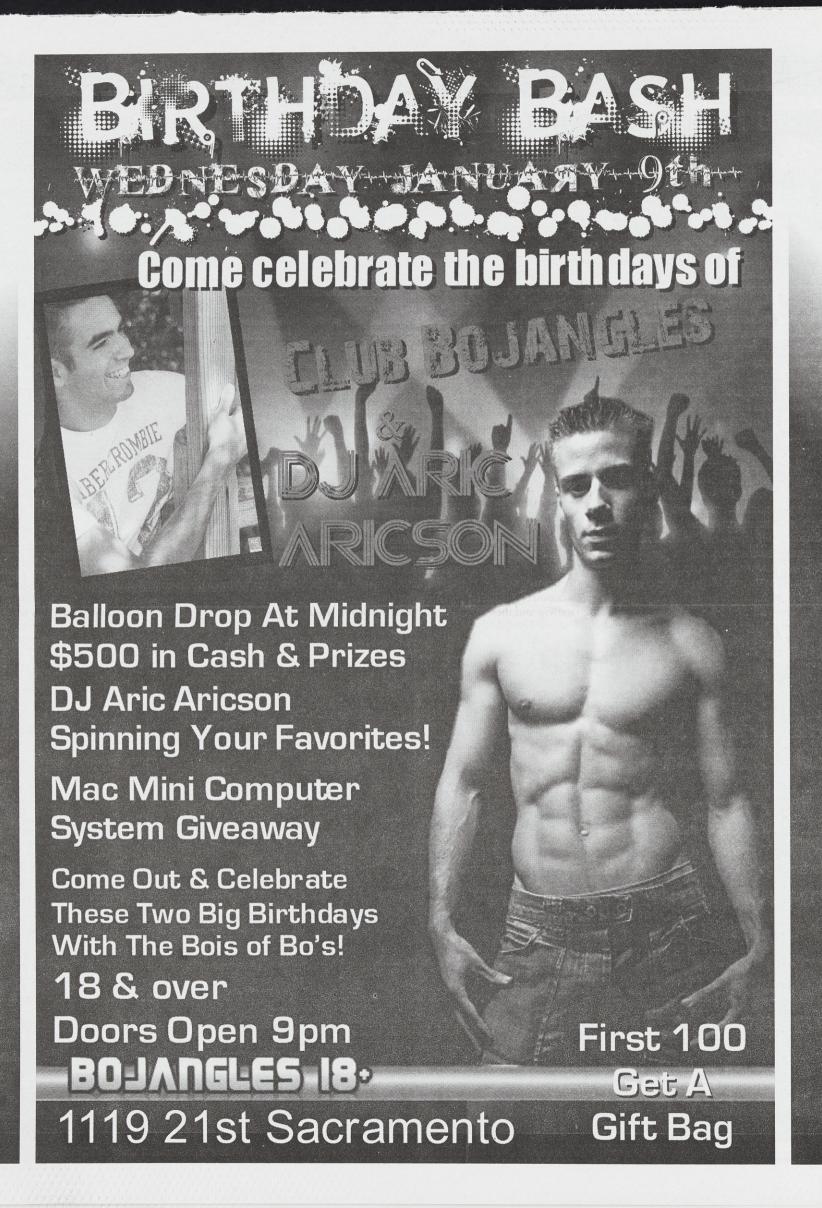
While the United States likes to tout its free-market credentials and the prosperity derived from its spirit of entrepreneurship and faith in the private sector, it is actually rather behind the curve when it comes to infrastructure. Even many socialist countries in Europe and elsewhere recognized long ago that using the private sector is a winning strategy to providing quality infrastructure.

It is time that California catches up by simply getting the government out of the way and rediscovering the virtues of private enterprise. As Thomas Jefferson, demonstrating his grasp of economics, once said, "It is better for the public to procure at the common market whatever the market can supply; because there it is by competition kept up in its quality, and reduced to its minimum price."

If private companies can do at least as good a job as government employees for cheaper, or can provide needed services that otherwise could not or would not be funded, why shouldn't they be encouraged to do so?

Adam B. Summers is a policy analyst at the Reason Foundation. He has written extensively on privatization, government reform, law, and economics. He holds an M.A. in economics from George Mason University and B.A. degrees in economics and political science from the University of California, Los Angeles.





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COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT



Name of Group Lambda Players

Years Going 19

Why was Lambda Players Founded? A group of actor's wanted a company that would cater to our community. Where LGBT folks could act or see plays in a safe friendly environment that represent our community. We stand at one of the only company's in the country that can say that

What exactly is Lambda Players? A Lambda Players is anyone who wants to be part of this LGBT theatre company. Actors, technicians even our audiences are lambda players. If you want to hand out programs, sets, lights, act, direct, write or make a costume...we need you.

Who are some of the past people who have left a lasting mark on Lambda Players? We have had a lot of wonderful people associated with the Players. People come in helping out here or there and after a while they are on the board or they are starring in one of our shows. It's always been a great place to make some great friends. One that stands out was Thom Bach. Thom was instrumental early on before he moved to New York Čity to pursue a career in theatre. When he moved back to Sacramento, he came back to Lambda where he acted and directed before his untimely death, Thom is a perfect example of the great people that have graced this company but there are so many people that made such an important impact on the company and we treasure the time they share with us.

How do interested people learn more about becoming involved with Lambda Players? We try our best to get the word out there but it's tough especially for a company that turns around shows the way we do. There are lots of ways to get in touch with us...thank goodness for e-mail. You can go through our website lambdaplayers.com, at a fair/event or let us know when you come to see a show.

What shows will Lambda Players be offering this year? We have the Tony Award winning Angels in America in January, a new kinda scary play called The Sugar

Witch in march and Jeffrey opening in May

What's next for Lambda Players? We now have our ticketing system online. This has really made it easy for our audience to know they have a seat waiting for them. You just go to our website and click on buy tickets. The system will let you pick which seat you want and send a confirmation back to your inbox. We still sell tickets at the door but our ticket turtle allows people to make sure there are seats available and that they are not left out in the cold from a sell out performances.

What are some of the productions that stand out as shining stars from Lambda Players? We have had some wonderful show in the past including Hedwig and the Angry Inch, Take Me Out and Sordid Lives still I think what makes us stand out for other companies are our original plays. We have had amazing success with our original productions in the past and we hope to continue that in the future. Currently we are looking for the best original Lesbian play we can find. You can check out our website to get the criteria on exactly what were looking for but we are serious about finding new plays and producing them

Where would you like to see Lambda Players grow in the next 5 years? I'd like to see us in the same theatre. We love our new home at the Studio Theatre and hope to be there for many years. Lambda Players are here to stay. Next year is our 20th anniversary and were planning on a stellar year so keep watching.

What is the group most proud of? I know I'm most proud of the amazing people that volunteer their time to seeing that this company survives. There have been hundreds of people over the past 19 years and we couldn't have made it this far without any of them. We really have been blessed.

What is Lambda Players most in need of? Audience members. I've always said that the best way to support the arts is by attending a show. You make an investment in the company when you walk through our doors.



Name Evan Johnson

Years living In Sacramento? 2 1/2 years

What defines you? Recently I took a Clown workshop in Colorado with this crazy teacher from Italy. It was an incredible experience. Getting laughed at a lot, paying (for the workshop) to get laughed at. I think that was a defining moment. I've always loved performing and particularly theatre and stretching myself to perform in new and challenging ways. I think I WANT to be defined as this: an ever-evolving radical queer performance artist and community activist. If you want a more accurate definition of ME, I'd say you'd have to ask someone else.

What do you want to see happen for our community? I want queer artists in the Sacramento area to wake up and challenge themselves and the people around them. I want the theatre community to feel obligated to their audience's salvation. I want queer healing. I want self-hatred by means of assimilation and "blending in" to stop all together. I want pride to be more than a bumper-sticker term. I want people to own their actions. I want more than tolerance. I want everyone to be embraced without sacrifice or loss of integrity.

What's your claim to fame? Well, I had a public access TV show when I was 12 years old. And kids at school thought that was really cool. I used to interview people (adults) from the community and review movies. This was in El Dorado County, I should add. People in my homeroom class would applaud when I came in in the morning and say, "Good one, Ev!"

What makes you angry? I got really angry recently when a friend of mine told be about this place in Massachusetts where kids (anyone under 18) are sent to be rehabilitated for behaving in unusual ways. They are given "backpacks" with an electrical charge attached and the teachers all have special remote controls for each kid, and if someone in their class "acts up" they push a button and that kids gets "buzzed." I thought that was really fucked up. I get inspired by anger, it makes me want to create more. My friend who told me that is working on a play based on the research she's done on it. I love that. I think anger is useful. What makes you happy? So many things! I



love a good song that pops on the radio and makes me take notice. I like when I get to ride in the carpool lane and zoom by all the traffic. I get happy a lot when I make someone laugh or when we can laugh together a lot, at something that feels really specific to us, that we're sure no one would "get" but us.

Greatest weakness? I can get really short with my family and people closest to me. Irritable and bitchy. I wish I didn't.

Greatest Strengths? I really care about people. I think I have a good idea of what I want to do while I'm on this earth. And it's not so far off in la-la land, I see the path I'm on, and I'm doing what I need to be doing to get there.

How long have you worked with Lambda Players? This is my 3rd production with Lambda. I was in Trolling, which was written by Tom Swanner, and it was hysterical. That was back in 2003, I think. I was 17! I liked that show a lot. I directed Cinderella: The Real True Story shortly there after. That was a great experience! I am really proud of that cast and the show we wound up with.

What's the best thing about your Role? In Angels in America I'm playing Louis Ironson, who is plagued with guilt and self-loathing from start to finish. Its fun to play someone so helplessly unhappy. His body is just tired from all the lost battles. And no one is "on his side." I have a scene where I speak for like 5 minutes without any interjections from other characters, and I'm just rambling on about politics and race relations and justice and freedom, and it's like this great moment because what I'm really feeling and thinking ISN'T what I'm talking about, so there's all these layers that are working, subtext. It's fun to be so pathetic. I get to comment on this HUGE segment of the population, people who feel totally at war with the world, people who will never "win."

What other non-profits do you support? I like to support HRC (Human Rights Campaign) when I can. I think Breaking Barriers is an important local group. Food Not Bombs does awesome things every week at Cesar Chavez Park.

If you could tell the world one thing, what would it be? Break out, be bold, and reach for the truth. (I know, I know, that's 3 things).

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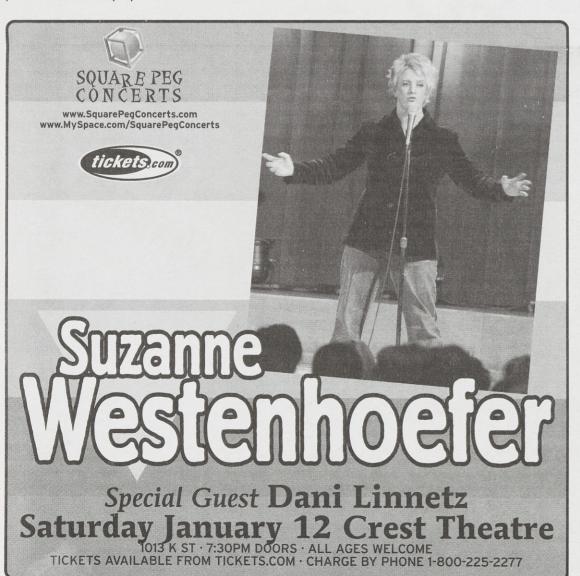


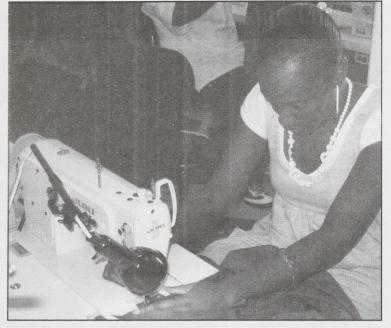
ARTS & CULTURE

Magic Circle's Sound Of Music Rings Through The Hills



Maria (Katie Veale), a novice nun, is greeted with distrust by the widowed Capt. Von Trapp (Brian Lewis) and children Liesl (Kendra Evans), Louisa (Erin Mulvey), Kurt (Cameron Dayton), Friederich (Alex Rocca), Marta (Topeka Vaughn), Brigitta (Kerry McCullough) and Gretl (Miriam Mars) in Magic Circle Theatre's production of the musical The Sound of Music. Photo by Kris Hunt. Magic Circle presents the popular musical The Sound of Music playing Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm, Sundays at 2pm, Jan. 11 - Feb. 23, 2008 in the Roseville Theatre, 241 Vernon St., Roseville, CA 95678. Tickets are \$22-25 general admission, \$20-22 seniors and students, \$12-14 children 11 years old and under. Call (916) 782-1777 for tickets.





Evolving Role Of Academics Attracts New Caliber Of Eager, Creative Students

International Academy of Design & Technology Sacramento was established to fill a critical need for students not addressed by traditional four-year institutions. Its focus is on interactive learning and skill-building. The Academy opened its doors in May to students, launching a creative curriculum that is both revolutionary in concept and attractive to a student population more discerning about its learning environment. The Academy provides educational programs that prepare students for professional opportunities in the creative fields of fashion design, marketing, interior design and visual communication.

The faculty includes a talented collection of working professionals with concrete work experience. They possess both the theoretical and practical, hands-on expertise necessary to introduce students to an exciting yet realistic portrayal of career options.

"We take a more personal approach to education," stated IADT—Sacramento President, Melody Rider. "Our students are mature and have specific needs. We give them a quality education, the opportunity to develop 'real world' portfolioquality projects and help guide them into the workforce once they have graduated. It's an empowering experience for us

as educators, as well as for the students, who learn, grow and succeed in their chosen creative field." SOL

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The Academy's classrooms consist of lecture rooms and instructional laboratories—computer labs, drawing, drafting and sewing studios—for hands-on skill development in the student's chosen professions.

IADT—Sacramento offers a year-round academic calendar. Tuition planning is available to all students and financial aid is available for those who quality. The curriculum includes flexible day and evening class options—career counseling, portfolio development, interviewing skills, internship and career placement services.

The International Academy of Design & Technology is accredited by the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools to award associate, bachelor's, and master's degrees. The Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools is listed as a nationally recognized accrediting agency by the United States Department of Education and is also recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. For more information visit www. iadtsacramento.com or call (916) 285-9468.

ARTS & CULTURE

St. Paul's Arts and Cultural Experience Launches Emerging Artist Series

ffering an opportunity to both music lovers and undiscovered musicians, St. Paul's Arts and Cultural Experience, known as SPACE:music, will also launch their fourth concert of the 2007-08 season, the new Emerging Artist Series (EAS). by featuring Claire McKnight,

EAS offers listeners a chance to hear some of the musical mavericks in the area perform music from a variety of genres, ranging from musical theater to contemporary classical chamber music. After proudly hosting capacity crowds and sold out performances for the likes of Sacramentobased Vox Musica and for internationally acclaimed guitarist David Tanenbaum, SPACE:music promises McKnight's concert to offer equally exciting performances of music by Tony Award winner, Jason Robert Brown.

A young musician, working professionally for over a decade, McKnight has led a diverse career as both performer and musical director. Her stage credits include A Little Night Music, Fiddler on the Roof, Gift of the Magi, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, and South Pacific. Listeners will recognize her voice and her face from her regular, sold-out performances with Vox Musica. McKnight is a founding member of the ensemble. A graduate of Humboldt State University, she also enjoys putting her degree in Vocal Performance to work in both professional and community theaters in Northern California.

A relatively young composer/lyricist to the musical theater scene, Jason Robert Brown is best known for his Tony Award-winning score, Parade, as well as the Off-Broadway smash, The

Last Five Years. McKnight says, "he is such a talented composer and lyricist. His work evokes such emotion. I feel honored to put my stamp on his music." Brown is lucky to have McKnight interpret his work as Brenda Bishop of The Times Standard writes, "when you hear Claire McKnight's voice you are lifted into another level of musical accomplishment. McKnight's voice is rich and full-bodied, all the qualities you would expect and experience from musical theater." Barry Blake of the The North Coast Journal states plainly, "Claire McKnight is a superior singer.

The concert will feature two other local Sacramento talents as well. McKnight enjoys collaborating with baritone-tenor Christopher Plank finding him "a joy to work with. He has a tremendous understanding

for the nuances of the music." Pianist Chris Schlagel, who as worked throughout the US for over 25 years, will accompany McKnight and Plank. "I count myself so lucky to be working with such a supremely talented piano man. I can say that I have learned more about myself as a singer working with Chris than any accompanist I have worked with in the past," McKnight says.

Finally, this evening of music is special to the SPACE:music concert season, as McKnight will be presenting this event as a fund raiser for the music program at St. Paul's. McKnight, with guests Plank and Schlagel, will be performing Saturday, January 19th at 8:00pm. For advance tickets, please email curator@stpaulssacramento. org. More information on the performers' biographies and programming is available online at stpaulssacramento.

org/SPACE-MUSIC.html.

Details: Claire McKnight, soprano, with Christopher Plank (baritone-tenor) and Chris Schlagel (piano); Concert of music by Tony Award Winner, Jason Robert Brown., Fundraiser for St Paul's Episcopal Church Music Program, 1430 J St., Sacramento, stpaulssacramento.org/ SPACE-MUSIC.html, \$15 general / \$10 students and seniors (tax-deductible)

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SPIRITUALITY

The Highest Call: From You...To You—The Gift of Giving Heart



Rev. Doretha Williams-Flournoy, MS

Given that this is the holiday season and the beginning of the New Year, it seems fitting that I digress into some spiritual principals that will propel you into fulfillment, prosperity and the greatness you've been yearning. So forgive me while I get "my preach on"!

For those of us who struggle with overcoming fear, depression, or anxiety, one of our greatest oppositions is giving. When you've been challenged in life by rejection, loss, hurt, physical ailments, loneliness it is difficult to rise to call of caring for others. When you've been mistreated, discriminated against, maligned, cast off, kick to the curb the tendency is to protect self first, to pull into one's self, to hide one true self for the purpose of self preservation. This strategy allows us to predict what's coming next, to control when and where the next assault will come, It helps us minimize the pain.

Right now, giving may seem like a humongous hurdle when your needs are so intense. I'm not just talking about financial struggles. I'm also referring to emotional needs, the need for love, security, closeness, and touch. Right now taking care of you is the first priority. Giving is the cure to what ails you. The giving of your time, talents, and yes – your money will open avenues to achieving the success, prosperity, love and hope you're looking for

hope you're looking for. One of the greatest gifts ever given to human kind is the life of Jesus, the Christ. When the Creator released Jesus (the master teacher, prophet, counselor, Son of God) into this world, we were given the opportunity to witness the full impact of giving and the potential impact giving can have on our lives. God's act of giving the gift of Jesus came from a place of love. The scriptures say that God loved the world so much that God gave to the world God's one and only son. God gave Jesus to us as a model for living, as a model for overcoming adversity, as a model for developing relationships and exhibiting love. If we can learn the principals and live those principals out through practice in community with others our lives will experience love; our needs will be met; our challenges will be over come; our faith will

For most of us giving is a struggle. I began this discussion describing the struggles that keep us from taking advantage of the gifts that come from giving. When given the opportunity to give, I find myself worrying more about what I don't have than what I have to give. For some reason I can go to McDonald's and spend 10.00 dollars, but when the church offering plate is passed I worry about whether I have enough to pay my electricity bill. Having lived in under resourced communities, communities and

families bombarded by poverty and crime, I often feel compelled to hoard, to hold on to what I have for fear that I will not have enough when its needed. I even do that with my time. I worry that if I volunteer too much, I'll be too tired to go to work, or care for my family, or have time for me.

The other day I found this passage in the Message Bible, a translation of the Hebrew Bible. The passage says...

"If God gives such attention to the appearance of wildflowers—most of which are never even seen—don't you think God will attend to you, take pride in you, do the best for you? What I'm trying to do here is to get you to relax, to not be so preoccupied with getting, so you can respond to God's giving. People who don't know God and the way God works fuss over these things, but you know both God and how God works. Steep your life in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. Don't worry about missing out. You'll find all your everyday human concerns will be met." Matthew 6: 30-33

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One day Jesus was hanging out in a remote area with his disciples ("home boys"). The people heard he there and came to hear him speak and to get healed. After a while Jesus' home boys realized it was getting late and that there was no food or places for the people to stay. So they told Jesus to send the people home so they could eat and rest. There were 5000 plus people hanging around. Jesus looked at the disciples and told them, "You feed them". The home boys looked at each other and said, "We can't feed all these people. We only have five loaves of bread and two fish." Disgusted, Jesus took the bread and fish, prayed, and started breaking it up and passing it out. By the time he was finished everyone was full. But the other miracle that most people miss is that the home boys walked away with enough food to last them for days, more than what they initially had. Now that's what I'm talking

When we give we walk away with far more than what we came with. I want you to know that I am the ultimate skeptic. I need to be convinced that any principle, concept, or idea has merit before I will part with my time or my money. Another passage in the scriptures say, "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it." Malachi 3:10.

I love a challenge. So I have done exactly

I love a challenge. So I have done exactly what the passage says. I give and I look for it to be given back. Now it hasn't always come in the ways I have expected or the way I gave it; but as a result of giving, my life has been thrilling, fulfilled, abundant, and it keeps getting better.

So as we celebrate this holiday season, we anticipate the start of a new life, a better life, in the New Year. I could not pass up this opportunity to share with you one of the secrets I have learned that have helped me experience the highest call. As we enter

2008, I wish you peace, love, and prosperity.

Rev. Doretha Williams-Flournoy, MS is ordained clergy in Metropolitan Community Church and co-pastor of A Church for All. To learn more about A Church for All visit them on the web at achurchforall.org. To contact Rev. Doretha directly email your comments or questions to spirit@achurchforall. org or mail them to P.O. Box 162073 Sacramento CA 95816



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By Sharon Fredrickson

Idon't know about you, but I thought 2007 was pretty exciting. The Laws of Attraction got a lot of attention. Oprah was talking about it and so was Larry King, and "The Secret" practically started a movement! The movie What the Bleep do We Know came out and more and more people have started wondering what exactly the "rabbit hole" really looks like. I for one, am very excited that this is all getting so much attention. It is this thinking that will literally change the world!

We know that everything is made up of 99.9% energy that manifests itself in two different ways. It either manifests itself in waves of opportunity or particles of reality. Well, we also know that if you put enough

GTO in 2008

particles together heading in the same direction, the rest just sort of follow along. It's like pulling a rag off the table, once enough of it gets over the edge the rest of it just falls right off the edge with it.

Well, that's what we and other teachers are doing. We're helping enough people get onto the "warrior path" that it will literally change the world. It is my intention that we are going to be the generation that is known for finally "figuring it out", because while 2007 brought us the introduction—or reminder—of the Laws of Attraction, 2008 is going to be the year where people are really putting the stuff to work!

This is going to be the year where we start working off of our inspirations instead of our programming. In fact, I would challenge you not to worry about making New Year's Resolutions, but rather wait for your inspiration. Right around this year, so many people put a long list together of things they sort of want to do or feel they should do. Lose weight, stop smoking, get out of unhealthy debt, go to church more, get out of or

into a relationship are just a few things that probably made a lot of resolution lists—just like every year

like every year.

The unfortunate reality of these lists are that many people do really good for a week or two and then they get back to their old behaviors.

See, there is a huge difference between working towards a goal set because, "I should" and working with intention towards an inspiration.

So here's your challenge for 2008. Listen to your inspirations and don't let your programming talk you out of it. Get as many tools as you can to help you get on and travel up that warrior's path. 2008 is going to be GTO (good times only). Start listening to your gut, that inner voice (and not the scary ones like Sybil had), the one that tells you this is who you are suppose to be...now go get it!

Sharon Fredrickson is the cofounders of Livin' Free which is a company that is dedicated to leading people towards success in all aspects of their lives. For more information on Sharon and Livin' Free visit them at www.livinfree.biz.

EARTH TALK

FROM THE EDITORS OF E/THE ENVIRONMENTAL MAGAZINE

Why it is not mandatory to recycle in the U.S. What needs to happen to make recycling the law of the land?

Mandatory recycling is a hard sell in the U.S., where the economy runs largely along free market lines and landfilling waste remains inexpensive and efficient. When the research firm Franklin Associates examined the issue a decade ago, it found that the value of the materials recovered from curbside recycling was far less than the extra costs of collection, transportation, sorting and processing incurred by municipalities.

Plain and simple, recycling still costs more than landfilling in most locales. This fact, coupled with the revelation that the so-called "landfill crisis" of the mid-1990s may have been overblown-most of our landfills still have considerable capacity and do not pose health hazards to surrounding communitiesmeans that recycling has not caught on the way some environmentalists were hoping it would.

However, many cities have found ways to recycle economically. They have cut costs by scaling back the frequency of curbside pickups and automating sorting and processing. They've also found larger, more lucrative markets for the recyclables, such as in developing countries eager to reuse our cast-off items. Increased efforts by green groups to educate the public about the benefits of recycling have also helped. Today, dozens of U.S. cities are diverting upwards of 30 percent of their solid waste streams to recycling.

While recycling remains an option for most Americans, a few cities, such as Pittsburgh, San Diego and Seattle, have made recycling mandatory. Seattle passed its mandatory recycling law in 2006 as a way to counter declining recycling rates there. Recyclables are

now prohibited from both residential and business garbage. Businesses must sort for recycling all paper, cardboard and yard waste. Households must recycle all basic recyclables, such as paper, cardboard, aluminum, glass and plastic. Businesses with garbage containers "contaminated" with more than 10 recyclables are issued warnings and eventually fines if they don't comply. Household garbage cans with recyclables in them are simply not collected until the recyclables are removed to the recycling bin. Meanwhile, a handful of other cities, including Gainesville, Florida and Honolulu, Hawaii, require businesses to recycle, but not yet residences.

In perhaps the most famous case of a city putting recycling to the economic test, New York, a national leader on recycling, decided to stop its least cost-effective recycling programs (plastic and glass) in 2002. But rising landfill costs ate up the \$39 million savings expected. As a result, the city reinstated plastic and glass recycling and committed to a 20-year contract with the country's largest private recycling firm, Hugo Neu Corporation, which built a state-of-the art facility along South Brooklyn's waterfront. There, automation has streamlined the sorting process, and its easy access to rail and barges has cut both the environmental and transportation costs previously incurred by previously using trucks. The new deal and new facility have made recycling much more efficient for the city and its residents, proving once and for all that responsibly run recycling programs can actually save money, landfill space and the environment.

CONTACTS: Franklin Associates, www.fal.com; Recycling in Seattle, www.seattle. gov/util/Services/Recycling; Hugo Neu Corporation, www.hugoneu.com; www.emagazine.com

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SPORTS

Monarchs Fans To Enjoy More Home Weekend Games In 2008 With Four Friday, Six Saturday And Two Sunday Games WNBA Season Extended To Accommodate 2008 Olympic Games

The Sacramento Monarchs will play 12 home weekend games in 2008. The Monarchs view these home weekend dates as the best opportunities for Northern California sports enthusiasts to experience women's basketball at its highest level. The 34-game regular season schedule features the Monarchs playing four home games on Fridays, six home games on Saturdays and two home games on Sundays during the 2008 season.

"We have received feedback from our fans that they prefer weekend dates for Monarchs games," said Danette Leighton, vice president of Monarchs business operations. "As their advocates, Maloof Sports & Entertainment has communicated this need for more weekend dates and we are extremely pleased with our 2008 schedule."

The 2008 Monarchs season will feature six Special Event Games. Along with great basketball, these six games will include unique elements to provide fans with an enhanced experience at ARCO Arena. Elements may include outdoor fun zones with bounce houses, hand printing and card making stations, carnival games and activities and special surprise guests.

Monarchs Special Event Games

Opening Night—Saturday, May 17, versus the San Antonio Silver Stars, Be a part of the Monarchs tip-off to their 12th WNBA Season and collect your commemorative Opening Night Lapel Pin.

Dads and Daughters—Saturday, June 14, versus the Los Angeles Sparks Celebrate Father's Day with the Monarchs at the special game for fathers and daughters of all ages.

Women of Inspiration—Saturday, July 12, versus the 2007 WNBA Champion Phoenix Mercury. Be in attendance to hear from one of today's most influential women like Good Morning America's Robin Roberts, the Monarchs 2007 featured guest.

Breast Health Awareness Night— Friday, July 18, versus Atlanta (team name to be determined). Honor breast cancer survivors at this special Monarchs game versus the newest team in the WNBA.

Camp Day—Thursday, July 24, versus the Phoenix Mercury Celebrate Monarchs Mascot Monty's birthday at this special 11:30 a.m. matinee

The MONTYS/Fan Appreciation Night—Tuesday, September 9, versus the Seattle Storm. The Monarchs salute you, the fans at their final regular season home game for 2008.

Additional key weekend match-ups include: Friday, June 6, vs. the 2007 Eastern Conference Champion Detroit Shock; Saturday, July 26, vs. the Indiana Fever; and Saturday, August 30, vs. the Houston Comets.

Sacramento will be featured on national television twice during the 2008 season. The first game will be on Tuesday, May 20, at the Seattle Storm, at 7:30 p.m. and the second game will be on Thursday, July 10, vs. the Los Angeles Sparks, at 6p.m. Both games will be televised on ESPN2.

The League has not scheduled any games between July 28-August 27, 2008, to allow for WNBA players to compete for their respective national teams at the 2008 Olympic Games. During this time, the Monarchs will stay in Sacramento and take part in a variety of community-based events and activities. As the season draws near please visit SacramentoMonarchs. com for more information on Monarchs activities during the Olympic break.

With the release of the 2008 WNBA Schedule, it's a great time to purchase Monarchs tickets. Give the gift of Monarchs tickets this Holiday season with the purchase of flexible and affordable ticket plans as gift certificates. For more information, please visit SacramentoMonarchs.com.

Key Facts About 2008 Schedule

By month, the schedule breaks down as follows: May (2 home, 3 away = 5 total), June (5 home, 5 away = 10 total), July (7 home, 5 away = 12 total), August (1 home, 1 away = 2 total) and September (2 home, 3 away = 5 total).

By day, the schedule breaks down as follows: Tuesday (3 home, 3 away = 6 total), Wednesday (0 home, 1 away = 1 total), Thursday (2 home, 5 away = 7 total), Friday (4 home, 2 away = 6 total), Saturday (6 home, 3 away = 9 total) and Sunday (2 home, 3 away = 5 total).

The Monarchs longest homestand is four games, which includes contests against Seattle (July 8), Los Angeles (July 10), Phoenix (July 12) and Atlanta (July 18).

Sacramento embarks on six road trips of two or more games in length. The longest are two, three-game outings: Seattle (May 20), Chicago (May 22) and Connecticut (May 24); New York (June 8), Washington (June 11) and Minnesota (June 12).

The Monarchs will play 27 games (14 home, 13 away) before the Olympic break and 7 games (3 home, 4 away) after the break.

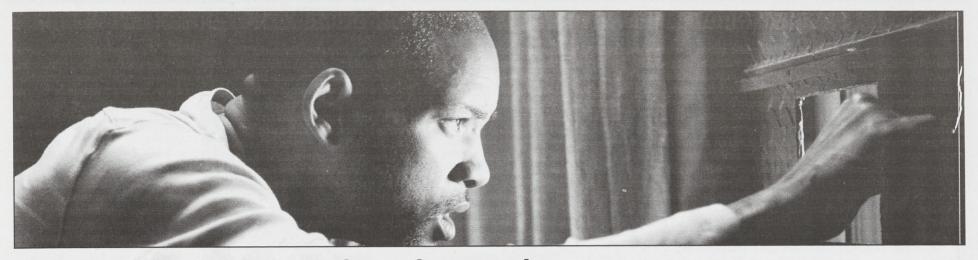
Sacramento will play all teams in the Eastern Conference twice and all teams in the Western Conference three times, except for Houston and Seattle, which will be four games each.



Sacramento Monarchs 2008 Regular Season Schedule

Date Sat., May 17 Iues., May 20 (E2) Thurs., May 22 Sat., May 24 Fri., May 30	Opponent San Antonio Silver Stars @ Seattle Storm @ Chicago Sky @ Connecticut Sun Houston Comets	Time 7pm 7:30pm 5pm 4pm 7pm	Site ARCO Arena KeyArena UIC Pavilion Mohegan Sun Arena ARCO Arena	Special Events Opening Night
Fri., June 6	Detroit Shock	7pm	ARCO Arena	
Sun., June 8	@ New York Liberty	1pm	Madison Square Garde	en
Wed., June 11	@ Washington Mystics	4pm	Verizon Center	
Thurs., June 12	@ Minnesota Lynx	5pm	Target Center	
Sat., June 14	Los Angeles Sparks	7pm	ARCO Arena	Dads & Daughters
Fri., June 20	Connecticut Sun	7pm	ARCO Arena	
Sun., June 22	Chicago Sun	6pm	ARCO Arena	
Tues., June 24	@ Indiana Fever	4pm	Conseco Fieldhouse	
Thurs., June 26	@ Minnesota Lynx	5pm	Target Center	
Sat., June 28	New York Liberty	7pm	ARCO Arena	
Tues., July 1	Washington Mystics	7pm	ARCO Arena	
Thurs., July 3	@ San Antonio Silver Stars	5pm	AT&T Center	
Sat., July 5	@ Houston Comets	12pm	Reliant Arena	
Tues., July 8	Seattle Storm	7pm	ARCO Arena	
Thurs., July 10 (E2)	Los Angeles Sparks	6pm	ARCO Arena	
Sat., July 12	Phoenix Mercury	7pm	ARCO Arena	Women of Inspiration
Fri., July 18	Atlanta	7pm	ARCO Arena	Breast Health Awareness
Sun., July 20	@ Detroit Shock	3pm	The Palace of Auburn	Hills
Tues., July 22	@ Atlanta	8am	Philips Arena	
Thurs., July 24	Phoenix Mercury	11:30am	ARCO Arena	Camp Day
Sat., July 26	Indiana Fever	7pm	ARCO Arena	
Sun., July 27	@ Seattle Storm	6pm	KeyArena	
Thurs., Aug. 28	@ Los Angeles Sparks	7:30pm	STAPLES Center	
Sat., Aug. 30	Houston Comets	7pm	ARCO Arena	
Fri., Sept. 5	@ Phoenix Mercury	7pm	US Airways Center	
Sun., Sept. 7	Minnesota Lynx	6pm	ARCO Arena	
Tues., Sept. 9	Seattle Storm	7pm	ARCO Arena	MONTYS/Fan Appreciation
Fri., Sept. 12	@ Houston Comets	5:30 p.m.		
Sat., Sept. 13	@ San Antonio Silver Stars	5pm	AT&T Center	

All game times are local to Sacramento (Times Tentative and Subject to Change) • E2 = ESPN2



Sweeney Todd Film Makes The Grade

I Am Legend

Judd: Last night Tom and I saw the holiday blockbuster I Am Legend based on the 1954 novel of the same name by Richard Matheson. This is not the first time the book was made into a movie, the first version called The Last Man on Earth starred Vincent Price in 1964 and the follow up The Omega Man starred Charlton Heston in 1971. The movie follows scientist Robert Neville, who is the last man on earth after a virus wipes out the majority of the population and turns the remaining population into violent

Swanner: I hate zombies but you can't watch a horror/Sci-Fi anymore without at least a few zombies, so I cope. In the Omega Man they were crazed hippies so I guess the zombies aren't so bad after all. Will Smith plays Robert Neville this time around and I thought Smith did an outstanding job with the role. He still looks so young but in reality Smith could be a military scientist and at 38 he's looking good. I wish they had played more with the psychological effects of being alone but for current audiences that looks for action and special effects they did a great job of making it all work.

Judd: I thought to myself this movie is 28 Days Later meets Cast Away. Though I think I would rather be in Will Smith's shoes than Tom Hanks'. In fact, I don't think Will Smith had it that bad. He had gas and electricity, a loyal pooch and all of New York City to himself. That sounds fantastic to me; I'd deal with some ultra-violent zombies to have that kind of solitude.

Swanner: You are so sad. All alone in New York...what next Unabomber? It reminded me of Land of the Dead meet A Boy and His Dog and on the subject of dogs, the German Shepherd was terrific. Smith and Sam (the dog) are alone on screen for two thirds of the film and it never gets dull, so I guess I need to compliment the Director as well. I think the overall film was outstanding. The film is PG-13 but it felt more like an R just for the scares alone.

Judd: I don't know how to field dress a deer so I've got to learn that before I'm the sole survivor of the apocalypse, otherwise I'm ready. Anyway, as a whole the movie was fantastic and worth seeing in the theaters

Swanner: I can just see you and my dog tracking deer in Time Square...

Walk Hard

Judd: Last night Tom and I saw Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox story starring John C Reilly and written by Judd Apatow (The Golden Boy of 2007) and Jake Kasdan. The movie chronicles the life of fictitious musician Dewey Cox and is a dead-on spoof of the musician bio-pic.

Swanner: I just don't understand why all the spoofs aren't this good. This is as good a spoof as Hot Fuzz was earlier this year. It just got funnier and funnier, I found myself laughing at everything. The film stars off where Dewey's brother Nate (a musical prodigy) is sliced in half by a machete while he a Dewey are playing. This shapes Dewey's life and he finds himself becoming a musical prodigy himself.

Judd: To clarify that, Dewey

slices is brother in half – which most people will already know from the commercials. I think what makes this movie so refreshing is that it's a spoof without being over the top slapstick. The art of the spoof has been butchered in this past decade by movies like Epic Movie, Scary Movie — basically any movie that has the word "Movie" in the title. We've come to expect stupid, lowbrow humor aimed at audiences that want to know what the punch line is before the joke is even set up.

Swanner: Exactly. You don't have to worry that you saw all the funny things in the preview either. This has so many gags I'm still laughing. I also liked that it was an adult comedy written by and for Adults...what a concept. I do think that teenagers will find humor here but the cameos will mean nothing to most people under the age of 20. On the subject of cameos...filmmakers have a lot of friends.

Judd: Apatow seems to really want to bring back the adult comedy. He doesn't care that his movies are rated R. He knows what's funny and isn't going to water it down to maximize his profit. There are so many instances that were side splittingly funny that would have never happened in a PG-13 movie. I loved cameos, almost I as much as I loved they kept mentioning Dewey's age instead of doing his makeup. There's only so much you can do with a mug like John C Reilly's.

Swanner: I sure had a good time and I'm really glad that someone is making good funny movies for adults.

Sweeney Todd

By Tom Swanner & Brian Judd

Swanner: Poor Brian has been suffering through family films, paper thin plots, hideous acting and Queen Latifa... but then along came Sweeney, Sweeney Todd. This is the latest brilliant offering from director Tim Burton that deals with a crazy barber that slits the throats of his clients and a pie shop owner that bakes the bodies into pies and it's a musical. All this insanity adds up to one of this years best films.

Judd: Sweeney Todd is the best holiday movie I've seen in years. It's bloody and gory. It's centered around revenge, murder and cannibalism. There are hilarious highlights of child abuse and child alcoholism. And the music and lyrics are by the gay Queen of Broadway, Stephen Sondheim. Who could ask for more? I left the theatre aglow.

Swanner: We should probably mention the wonderful cast. Johnny Depp, Helena Bonham Carter, Sacha Baron Cohen, Alan Rickman and Timothy Spall. Also the production design, the costumes and cinematography are all amazing. This is really a dream project for everyone involved and a pretty nice gift for moviegoers. I also think that a few people are in for a big surprise much like those audience members that had no idea that Sweeney Todd was a musical that got up and left after the first 15 minutes. What was your favorite part?

Judd: I'm trying to think of my favorite part. There are so many. I loved The Worst Pies in London – which, by the way, was filmed on location in my kitchen. I loved the Johanna sequence where Sweeney is singing a lovely ballad about his daughter while slashing throats and the blood was going everywhere. I liked Senior Pirelli and the

contest. I liked everything.

Swanner: I loved how the bodies would slide down the shoot and land in the basement. Did you see when the one head popped open...it was so cool. I also like how only you and I were laughing during so many scenes that horrified the rest of the audience.

Judd: I think it's because the audience was too shocked to laugh. Those that were there because it is a gore/horror film were shocked that it was a musical and those that were there because it is a musical were shocked by the blood and gore. I can't think of any previous instance where these two genres have met with such wonderful results.

Sweeney Todd			
Swanner:	****		
Judd:	****		
I Am Legend			
Swanner:	*** 1/2		
Judd:	*** 1/2		
Walk Hard			
Swanner:	*** 1/2		
Judd:	*** 1/2		



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lgbtcenter.ucdavis.edu WEAVE

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Sierra Gay Men's Network ccservices.cc/sgmn

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Lambda Letters Project 916.728.1261, lambdaletters.org Sac. Log Cabin Republicans logcabinsacramento.org

Sac. Stonewall Democrats sacstonewall.org

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JANUARY

12 SATURDAY

AUCTION of 5-6 cars and 140+ car parts. Autos and parts displayed in Towe Auto Museum parking lot and the auction will take place via slide show inside the Museum in the Special Events Area. 10AM – 3PM, Towe Auto Museum – 2200 Front Street, Sacramento, Dean Kruse Auctions, (800) 968-4444

26 SATURDAY

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MONTHLY/WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY

SVL PANCAKE BREAKFAST First Sunday of Each Month: The Merc. 10am-2pm, svlclub. org

SAME-SEX BALLROOM DANCING—1st & 3rd Sun of each month, Dance Workshop & Guided Practice, Ballroom of Sac., 6009 Folsom Blvd., \$15 per person No partner necessary 916.320.4382

MONDAY

LESBIAN CANCER SUPPORT GROUP —Meets the 3rd

Monday of each month, 6:30pm Bring partners or support people with you. ROXANNE1040 @aol.com

SACRAMENTO STONEWALL DEMOCRATS—Meets every 2nd Monday, 6pm, edbennett1@gmail.com

MAD MONDAYS AT SAC BADLANDS—2 for 1 cocktails All Day and All Night, 20th & K, sacbadlands.com

OPEN MIC POETRY Slam, Spokenword, The Coffee Garden, 2914 Franklin Blvd Sacto, Hosted by J2, 7pm 'til it's Silent

WEDNESDAY

WOMEN ON WEDNESDAYS Lambda Center, 1927 L St., 916.442.018

RESPECT SACRAMENTO 2nd Wednesday of each month, 6:30pm, LLACE, 1414 21st St, RespectSacramento.org or 916.733.2135

SPC TRANS PEERS GROUP 2nd and 4th Weds. of the month, 7:30pm at Stanislaus PRIDE Center, 823 15th Street in Modesto. tgsupport@ stanpride.org, stanpride.org

SAC NOW

Sac Chapter National Organization for Women, meets the 3rd Thurs. of the month, 7pm, Hart Senior Center, 915 27th St, 27th & J. SacramentoNOW@gmail.com

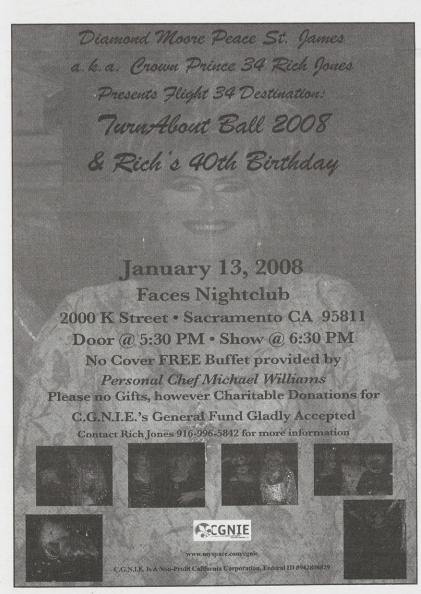
THURSDAY

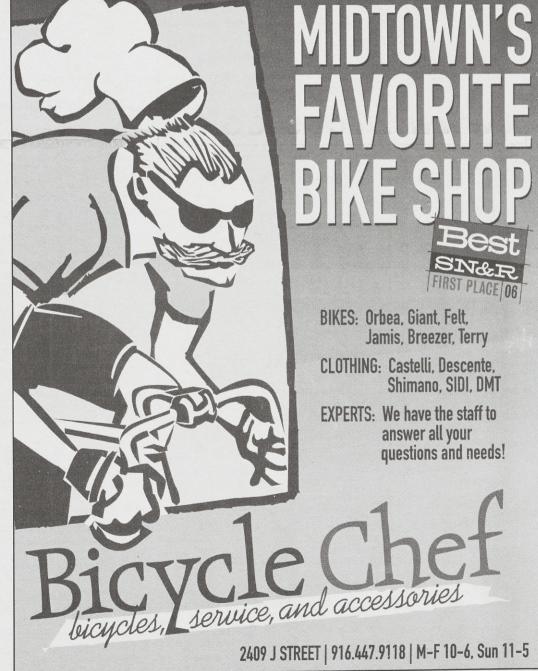
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Underwear & Theme Night, 10pm, Strippers, GoGo Boys, contests, Poolside fun and much more, FACES, 20th & K Sts., faces.net

13 SUNDAY

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